

7, 17, 61.

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Leicester, July 14/61.

Dear Burleigh;

You will oblige me by notifying
me, as soon as convenient thereafter,
when you have finished & sent off [to Whipple]
the final copy of the Report of 59-60. I
particularly wish to know this, i.e., when it is
finished & sent; - and also, according to the
best calculation you can make, how many
pages of print it will probably make. This
is needful to help me determine on the Appendix.
- The printers, - as of course you must be
aware, - have long been without any copy. - They
propose to send you proof of all y^r. Mss. - What
think you of an Index? You can judge best of
the need. And if you think it advisable, I shall
consider that conclusive, & shall wish you to
prepare it, as before; - provided it can be done

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without materially delaying the printers.

The Exec. Comtee had another meeting on Friday last - the main business relating to the "Standard", and the "Ways and Means" of the Society, - on which, I regret to say, (in confidence) no increase of light yet breaks. - The "Report" was again talked over, and I submitted some ~~new~~ ^{exact} figures & ^{new} calculations, as to the cost of past & future reports. The Comtee decided not to change their previous vote, - Phillips (who was not present at the previous meeting) giving his voice in favour of immediate & separate publication of the year 59-60, but, he says, "Say to Burleigh that if the Repⁿ for 60-61 can be completed by the time the printers have got thro' with 59-60, we will have the two printed together". That however - (I said) - was impossible to be done. - The Comtee say they

5. I wish you to proceed, just as you would otherwise have done, with the Rept. for 60-61, and they will fulfil their contract with you (as to payment.) Whether they then print 60-61, or not, - They will, probably, choose to reserve it, to be printed next Spring in connexion with the Report for 61-62; as, if it is of 75 pp. only, or thereabouts, it would seem to be best to join it with the current year, which also might be of similar length.

60. I will say here that, on further reflection, I am more reconciled than when I wrote you before to the ~~present~~ plan of printing 59-60 by itself; - 1st Because of the great size of the pamphlet - 208 pp. are already struck off; 2 more are in type, making 210; to which add the matter you are yet to send (probably not less than 20 pp.), & the Appendix (say 10 pp.), and we have, even for that year, a pamphlet of 240 pp. - very much the bulkiest we have ever issued, & therefore (in these days of much reading matter) less likely to be thoroughly read. Now to add 75 pp. more to that, giving a pamphlet of 315 pages, I confess it looked to me too formidable, and I could not reduce the number to any lower figure, by any possibility. Then 2^d. The cost -

the increased cost of the larger pamphlet, at a time
when money is so hard to be got, and we need every dollar
we have to sustain ourselves in ordinary operations, - indeed
with a great diminution of our ^{Lecturing} Agents. - Then, if the 75 pp. of
60-61 are ~~reserved~~ to go with a like number for 61-62, we
shall have a clever ^{sized} pamphlet of 150 pp. (or, with Appendix, 160 pp.)
- and of that we shall print but 500 copies, instead of
750, as we are doing of 59-60. For these reasons - ^{formidable} bulk
and increased cost, I am reconciled to the policy, which on general
grounds I depict to as much as ever, of printing - once more -
a report which will seem 2 years old, instead of fresh. - But
I think too that present, daily events, are investing John Brown
movement & his character with a new & lively interest; and as he
will be decidedly the hero of the pamphlet, it will after all have
a timeliness, freshness, & applicability, which in most cases the
story of the year before last would lack.

Whenever the year (59-60) is completed, I shall make an
effort to have additional pay granted for the work, - on account
of its length & laboriousness. You have already expressed some
thoughts to me, on that point; - if anything more occurs to you to say,
you will speak to us frankly.

Our Comtee have voted a Confidential Circular, of earnest appeal
to our friends, for the "Standard". If you can supply me a few names of

true friends, who can each give something in this crisis, I shall be much obliged. - Truly yrs, J. May Jr.